

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



02,83 Special Offers 1941

# LIRIOPE "MAJESTIC"

(RUSSELL STRAIN)

The New Hardy  
Evergreen Wonder Plant

OCT 2 1941  
U. S. Department of Agriculture

for Your Permanent Edging  
for Your Rock-Garden  
for Cut-Flowers

Grows in Full Sun or Deep Shade

LIMITED STOCK THIS SEASON

**Order Early**



LIRIOPE MUSCARI. REPRODUCED FROM EASTMAN NATURAL COLOR PHOTOGRAPH



REPRODUCED FROM NATURAL COLOR PHOTOGRAPH

*We take real pride* in introducing to our friends and customers a splendid new variety of *Liriope muscari* which we call Majestic. We have been testing it for several years in various parts of the country and now feel sure it is worthy of a prominent place in home gardens from coast to coast.

These natural-color photographs give you a good idea of this fine evergreen plant. They show you how it looks as an edging for a walk, and also give a close-up view of the flowers. One particular merit puts this variety far ahead of all other Liriopes—the blooms are carried on good stems that are long enough to hold them high above the foliage instead of buried down in it, as is the case with many varieties.

We warmly recommend this grand new plant for *your* garden. It will transform many a neglected place into a real beauty spot.

. . . SEE NEXT PAGE . . .



REPRODUCED FROM EASTMAN NATURAL COLOR PHOTOGRAPH

SECTION 562, P. L. & R.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SPRING, TEXAS  
Permit No. 1

Librarian

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Washington, D. C.

**LIRIOPE**  
Muscari



*Russell Gardens*  
Spring, Texas





JUST  
WHAT  
IS  
LIRIOPE  
MUSCARI  
?

This is a very fine evergreen herbaceous perennial forming a compact plant that does not send out runners or otherwise spread beyond its allotted place in the garden. It grows 12 to 15 inches high, and has disease-proof foliage of the darkest green, grass-like in shape and about 1/2 inch in width. The whole plant presents a very graceful appearance. The very double blooms of the variety Majestic are produced in spikes that stand up well above the foliage. In color they are lilac-pink—a soft, lovely shade that contrasts beautifully with the rich dark green leaves. Each plant makes a sturdy clump, and when used for edging, as shown in the photograph on the front of this folder, the row of plants makes a most pleasing effect.

There are several other species of Liriope—some of them called Ophiopogon—but in our opinion Muscari is by far the most desirable. No doubt the name Muscari was given it because the flower resembles the Muscari or Grape Hyacinth. Liriope, of course, is a much larger plant, however, with more profuse bloom, and is a perennial instead of a bulbous plant. This species is absolutely first-rate when used as edging for a garden walk or bed. It does not send out runners and usurp the whole garden, as some other species do, nor does it become straggly and untidy-looking. The clumps grow quickly and are always neat and pleasing.

A particular variety of *Liriope muscari* has lately become much sought after in the South. It has been found in many old Southern gardens, where it was called simply "Border Plant." Nurserymen have bought up many of these old plantings for further propagation, and the result is that this superb plant is finding its way from secluded old gardens of the past into the newest plantings of today. It has proved hardy both in the North and in the South. The illustrations here show the variety which we grow exclusively. We have named it Majestic, because we truly feel that it is the best one of all.

THE  
ANSWER  
TO A  
GARDENER'S  
PRAYER,  
LIRIOPE  
"MAJESTIC"

A permanent edging plant is much to be preferred to either bricks or a trench as an edging for flower beds and borders. But next comes the question of finding exactly the right plant. Our long rambling borders may be in the sun, but sometimes they run into shady places. Generally speaking, plants that like sun refuse to grow well in the shade. Borders near large trees present another problem, for they often get ragged-looking in such a location.

Here is where Liriope Majestic comes in, for I believe it is the answer to the gardener's quest for an ideal edging plant. After growing stocks of it for many years I find it can be used practically anywhere for edging. It has been successfully planted as close to trees as 6 inches, and either sun or shade suits it. After the plants are once established they prevent lawn grass from pushing into the flower beds beyond. And in mowing the grass, all you have to do is run the mower up close to the plants, and the job is done.

A  
SUPERB  
CUT-  
FLOWER

Either alone or combined with other blooms, Liriope Majestic makes lovely floral arrangements. Its long stiff stems, which made the plant so distinctive outdoors and raise the blooms well above the foliage, are just as useful when the flowers are arranged indoors. The stems may be pulled out from the crown of the plant without being cut. They slip out very easily and are several inches longer when picked in this way. The stems are covered with flowers for 6 or more inches of their length; the flat, full florets sometimes spread out at the top like a miniature cockscomb. Plants grown in the shade bloom just as freely as those in the sun, and what is more—the flowers last ten days or more in the house. Here in Texas the blooming season begins in May and lasts about two months. In the North later bloom is to be expected.

SHIPMENT BEGINS  
APRIL 15, 1945

Stock is Limited This Season  
ORDER EARLY

12 PLANTS . . . \$6.00  
25 PLANTS . . . \$10.00  
100 PLANTS . . . \$35.00

POSTPAID

100 plants make a border 100 feet long

Excerpt from *The Houston Press*, August 6, 1944  
By Mrs. R. C. Meysenburg, Horticultural Advisor,  
Southwest Region of the Garden Club of America

### Liriope Seems Answer to Gardener's Quest for Colorful and Easily Raised Border Plant

Border plants are necessary to present a neat and tidy appearance in a garden. If annuals are used for this purpose, then there is a constant re-planting, pulling out or trimming. What is pleasing for one reason will not be usable for the next.

With the increasing problem of garden maintenance, every gardener is searching for materials which require little care and which will grow and multiply year after year with profuse blooms and foliage.

The liriope seems an answer. This plant is classified as a genus of stemless smooth evergreen perennial herbs of the lily family. The foliage is grass-like but a trifle broader than a grass leaf, and the clumps grow rapidly with a thickened basal effect. As a clump matures, root division will increase the number of plants. If one is not impatient, one clump will give in a few years a large number of plants for a border.

These plants flowering in late summer and fall with deep lilac or purple flowers, produce spikes similar to grape hyacinths. The flowers are very double

on the spikes, thus giving a pronounced color effect. Following the flowering season, small purplish berries are developed and are almost as attractive as the flowers. The color of both blossoms and berries is enhanced by the profuse foliage.

This plant will grow in sun or shade and is indifferent to the soil, with perhaps a preference for acid soil. Planted as a border for an azalea bed, the plants will show their approval with rapid growth and luscious foliage and flowers.

Liriope is closely related to the lily-turf or ophiopogon but the blossoms are far superior in both number of spikes and thickness of the florets on the spikes. When a gardener learns of the many good qualities of the liriope, this plant will soon become a favorite and a "must" in every well-groomed garden. When a plant can be said to grow in sun or shade, indifferent to soil conditions, disregard drought or flood, and then be prolific with blooms and foliage—can there be any more good characteristics named? Liriope has a claim to all these.

A human-interest story lies behind the introduction of this special variety of *Liriope muscari*. Back in 1931 I was making one of my regular expeditions around the countryside in search of old plants that deserved to be brought again to the attention of modern gardeners. I was discussing the merits of Liriope with an old nurseryman whom I had known for years in Georgia. He told me that he knew of a variety growing in a certain old garden that he would like me to see. It was something different from anything he had seen before, and he felt sure it was a sport. Right away we drove over to look at his "find," and I knew immediately that it was something I simply had to have.

Its bloom was lighter in color and more profuse, and the stem longer than any I had seen. The old lady who owned the garden told me that she had found a single clump in her old border. It had been there for many years when she decided to lift it, separate it, and start a new bed. Well, I've seen plenty of people watch a new oil-well being drilled on their property here in Texas, but I doubt whether any of them got more of a thrill than I did when this good lady told me she wanted me to have her plants! She sold me the whole bed outright, saying she wanted this lovely Liriope to be grown for the market and hoped I would make some money from it. Well, I have. I have now grown this variety for several years; wherever the plants have been sent for trial—and this includes many different parts of the country—they have brought forth favorable reports. They have proved themselves hardy everywhere.

Think of having an evergreen edging plant that reaches only 12 to 15 inches in height, resists all diseases, grows in either acid or lime soil, in full sun or very dense shade, and stays uniform in growth! Liriope Majestic is just such a plant; it grows into a beautiful compact clump that does not have to be transplanted for many years. I never saw a garden subject that could take so much punishment as the plants we have sent out for trial in many different parts of the country the past several years. They have held up perfectly through the droughts and hot winds of Oklahoma, the wet seasons of the Gulf coast, and the hard freezes of the northern and eastern states. Of course this plant, like any other, will repay you many times over for any extra care you may give it, but it will grow even when neglected. We positively guarantee that every plant we send out will do all we claim for it, and will thrive in your garden regardless of the soil and exposure.

Liriope can safely be planted at any time of the year, summer or winter, without any danger of losing the plants. Since they are herbaceous evergreen perennials, they have fleshy tuberous roots, and may even be dug and left out of the ground several days before being transplanted without being harmed.

A good time to set them out is between April and September. This gives them a chance to become established before winter sets in. Usually they bloom the first season but about a year's growth is needed before the plants bloom abundantly. From then on, you can expect more and more flowers every season.

In planting a border, space the plants about a foot apart. Heavy divisions of uniform size should be chosen, with about half the foliage trimmed off. Plants of varying size will, of course, produce an irregular border. Remember that it takes the plants a little while to become established. Sometimes several weeks are needed before you will notice new growth starting from the top.

After a few years I find it advisable to cut the entire plant back in early spring before the new foliage begins to grow. By trimming it back to a few inches from the ground, new evergreen leaves are encouraged to grow. Usually the plants will be in full foliage again in three or four weeks.

ORIGIN  
OF  
LIRIOPE  
"RUSSELL'S  
MAJESTIC"

SUN  
OR  
SHADE,  
ACID OR  
LIME SOIL

WHEN AND  
HOW TO  
PLANT



REPRODUCED FROM EASTMAN NATURAL COLOR PHOTOGRAPH

# A PREVIEW of WHAT'S COMING

FROM

*Russell Gardens*  
*Spring, Texas*

## NEW *Daylilies*

in new colors

**WINE • SALMON • RED • BICOLORS**

### These Varieties Never Offered Before • Delivery Begins... April 15, 1945

These twelve new Daylilies that we are now offering prior to their formal introduction are listed at less than half our ordinary introductory price. We have arranged them in groups according to their color; there are three in shades of red, three in shades of salmon, three wine, and three bicolor. We could easily devote a long description to each separate variety, but space prevents that. Most of them are still being grown under number in our observation grounds; some are not yet named. Vigorous plants, ready to bloom and correctly labeled, will be sent to you next spring if you order now.

### Reserve Yours Now

*Please Note: This offer is void after December 15, 1944.* Reserve your plants by ordering at once.

The plants offered on this page will not be shipped before April 15, 1945. When ordering, be sure to state plainly the approximate date that you wish your shipment to be sent after April 15, 1945. Your order must be placed before December 15, 1944, to assure you delivery of these new varieties. If we find that we cannot supply late customers with these plants, we reserve the right to return their money immediately upon receiving it. Ordering early is your only way of making sure your order will be accepted.

We assure you that your plants will be well packed, correctly labeled, and of vigorous, blooming-size stock. Your order will be acknowledged immediately upon receipt.

#### RED GROUP

This consists of three distinct reds: a deep mahogany, a brilliant cherry, and a real rosy red. We believe this will be a popular group.

#### BICOLOR GROUP

In this group are three bicolors in patterns such as three petals rose and three petals lemon, and combinations of rose and brown, and red and yellow. Daylily connoisseurs visiting our nurseries say they have never seen lovelier color combinations than these.

#### SALMON GROUP

Here are three shades from light rose (called pink by many growers) to the deepest old rose. If you have never seen Daylilies in such colors as these, you have a treat coming to you.

#### WINE GROUP

These are the purple or wine-colored tones. Each is a decidedly different shade and a "must have" for anyone's garden.

**THIS OFFER VOID AFTER DECEMBER 15, 1944**

**W**E HAVE set aside for distribution next spring twelve new Daylilies in twelve new color patterns—red, wine, salmon, and bicolors, all in named varieties of our own origination. We are sure they are like none you may already possess. These were selected from more than 100,000 hybrids, the result of many years' selective breeding. Of course their blooming habits, foliage, and hardiness were taken into the most careful consideration.

We now have a sufficient quantity of these new Daylilies to distribute in several sections of the country, in order that our customers may better acquaint themselves with some of our newer sorts. At the prices we list, you cannot afford to overlook them.

None of these varieties have ever been offered before, and they are still so scarce that we have not listed them in our new 24-page catalogue in natural color soon to be mailed to you. For this reason we cannot allow more than one complete collection to be sent to any one person. If you wish to become the proud possessor of twelve of the loveliest Daylilies you have ever seen, place your order *now*. We will put it on file and reserve your plants for spring delivery beginning April 15, 1945. The orders will be sent out in the rotation in which they are received unless you request later shipment.

Daylilies are becoming more and more popular as the all-purpose plant in the home garden. Practically any kind of soil and any location suits them, and they are not troubled by any insects or plant diseases. We are proud to offer these new varieties of a truly worthwhile perennial.

### At Greatly Reduced Prices

Any 1 of the groups  
(3 plants)  
for . . . . . **\$4.00**

Any 3 plants (from differ-  
ent groups) **\$4.50**  
for . . . . .

All 4 groups (12 plants  
in all) **\$15.00**  
for . . . . .

ALL SHIPMENTS  
SENT POSTPAID



A Daylily after one year's growth in your garden

*Russell Gardens • Spring, Texas*